Sectt. IE-27—45,006—10-10-39.

Public (Special) (1941) Department.

HS SERIES.

G.O. No. 326

Dated 17-2-41

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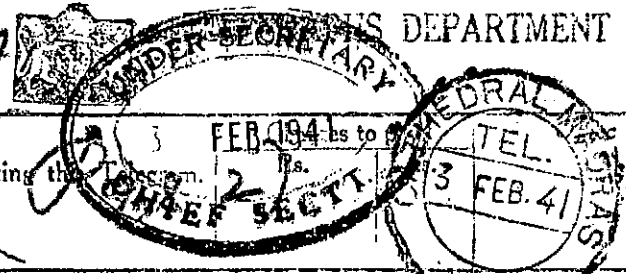
[Despatch Abstract.]

Hindu Muslim tension - Conspiracy; Mamdani, South Kanara District. Reports

1/ 5/17/41 to

C. INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT




NOTICE. This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram. Rs. As. Stamp.

| Handed in at (Office of Origin). | Date. | Hour. | Minute. | Service Instructions. | Words. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mangalore | 3 | 18 | 3 | C. | 50 |

TO Reasonable Mgr

Reed. here at 18 H. M.

Slight fracas Between Hindus and Muslims over Hindu temple Procession outside Jamia Masjid Mangalore last night Stop two Hindus superficially injured Stop one Muslim

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, is written after the text.

Lal Chand & Sons, Printers, Calcutta—No. 724R (B-255)—24-11-37—50,000 Pl.

C

# INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE.

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Charges to pay. Rs. | As.

Office Stamp.

CATHEDRAL P.O. 3 FEB. 41 CALCUTTA

| Handed in at (Office of Origin). | Date. | Hour. | Minute. | Service Instructions. | Words. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | |

TO

Received simple theives injury affray sporadic assaults subsequently last night and this morning affray situation under control and now quite

Collector

Public dept

Secret for personal

CS

*N. B.*—The name of the sender, if telegraphed, is written after the text.

Lal Chand & Sons, Printers, Calcutta—No 724R (B-255)—24-11-37—50,000 Blue

SECRETARIAT
3 - FEB 1941
SCOTT.

Post copy of telegram 3/ (Same as HW-2 ante)

From the Collector of South Kanara.
To the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St.George, Madras.
Mangalore, dated 3rd February 1941.

---

Slight fracas between Hindus and Muslims over Hindu temple procession opposite mosque Mangalore last night stop Two Hindus superficially injured stop One Muslim received simple incised injury stop Sporadic assaults subsequently last night and this morning stop Situation under control and now quiet.

Collector.

(True copy)

S.Kanara Collector's Office, 3/2/41
Mangalore, 3rd February 1941. Collector.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort St.George, Madras.

POLICE **DEPARTMENT**

C.P. 30.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT
5 FEB 1941
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

4

*Received* ..... 19 *Registered* ..... 19 .

*Subject.*

Slight trouble between Hindus and Muslims on 2nd February 1941 - Dongerkery, Mangalore, South Kanara District.

4065

ENCLOSURES.
No. one.
Spare copies

Re No. 121-C/State/41

*Station* Madras, *Dated the* 4th February 1941

From (Name) A.J. Happell, Esquire, O.B.E.,
(Designation) Inspr.-Genl. of Police, Madras.

To The CHIEF Secretary to the Government of Madras,
PUBLIC (GENERAL) Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith copy of a telegram dated 3rd February 1941 from the District Superintendent of Police, South Kanara, reporting a Hindu Muslim clash in connection with a Hindu procession opposite the Muhammadan mosque at Dongerkery, Mangalore. Details will be reported when known.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

for Inspr.-Genl. of Police.

Copy to the Secretary to the Govt. of Madras, Home Department.

K.R.3.2.

Copy of telegram dated 3.2.1941 from the District Superintendent of Police, South Kanara, to the Inspector-General of Police, Madras.

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SLIGHT TROUBLE BETWEEN HINDUS AND MUSLIMS IN CONNECTION WITH HINDU PROCESSION OPPOSITE MUHAMMADAN MOSQUE DONGERKERY MANGALORE TOWN 11.15 P.M. ON SECOND INSTANT STOP TWO HINDUS SUPERFICIALLY INJURED STOP ONE MUSLIM RECEIVED INCISED BUT SIMPLE INJURY STOP VISITED SCENE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL STOP DETAILED REPORT FOLLOWS

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for Inspr.-Genl. of Police.

K.R.3.2.

Public (General) depot

pp 4-5 ante

Submitted for perusal.

~~The telegram from the D.S. of S.Kanara, post copy of which is at pl ante, was not received in office.~~

A copy of the I.G's letter at p 4 ante has been sent to the Home depot.

Further report may be awaited.

(R.D. 15.2.41)

Cal
5/2/41

5/2

5/2

Camp No.11/41.

S.Kanara Dt.Magistrate's Office

Mangalore, 5th February 1941.

From

M. V. Subrahmanyan Esquire, I.C.S.,
Dt.Magistrate of South Kanara.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort St.George, Madras.

4285

Sir,

Communal Trouble - Mangalore Town - Report submitted.

In continuation of my telegram dated 3-2-1941 I submit the following report:-

2. Processsions of the Sri Venkatramana Temple in Mangalore are taken out on a route which passes in front of a Muslim Darga and Mosque. There had been some trouble about the year 1928 about taking of processions with music in front of the Muslim institution and a degree was obtained by the Hindus in a Civil Court in 1931 which permitted them to take processions with music in front of the Darga, a distinction being made as to the particular instruments that may be used as between the hours of congregational worship in the Darga and other hours In the judgment and decree no mention is made of a Mosque. The Hindu version appears to be that there was no Mosque in existence then and it has only come into existence subsequently. The Muslim version appears to be that the decree can be taken to cover only the Darga and not the Mosque and that the Mosque is an old institution too. After the decree was obtained in 1931 there had been no trouble of any sort between the Hindus and the Muslims over processions in front of the Mosque until December 1940. But as to the actual practice there are conflicting versions given by the Hindus and the Muslims respectively, the former saying that the processions used to be taken in front of the Mosque with music and the latter saying that music used to be completely stopped about 15 yards on either side of the Mosque. As

there was no actual trouble, the police records do not indicate what actually the practice was. In December 1940 the Temple procession passed in front of the Mosque with a bhajana, one of the components of which was the beating of a gong. The Muslims appear to have considered this to be a breach of the existing practice. An enquiry was held and the Circle Inspector of Police appears to have brought about an agreement between the two parties to the effect that there should be no music within 15 yards on either side of the Mosque and that outside the hours of the congregational worship bhajana accompanied by harmonium might be allowed.

5. There were Temple processions due to be taken out again on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of February, the routes on the 2nd and 3rd covering the area in front of the Mosque. On 1.2.41 some of the Muslim leaders approached me and said that in view of what had happened in December 1940 there was a likelihood of the Hindus turning out the processions with music in contravention of the usual practice and there might be trouble in consequence. I suggested that they should get into touch with the Temple Trustees and the Hindu leaders and see whether they could evolve an agreement satisfactory to both parties, and I added that, if they could not come to a solution as ~~to~~ between themselves, I would arrange, after making such summary enquiry about the practice as was possible, to have orders passed magisterially or by way of a licence issued under the Police Act to ensure that the processions were taken through only under appropriate conditions imposed. The Muslim and Hindu leaders met that day and arrived at an agreement between themselves which both sides came and reported to me in the morning of 2.2.41. A draft memorandum of agreement which had been drawn up was also shown to me. In effect it stated that even during congregational hours the procession of the deity could pass with music in front of the Mosque, but the music should be only a harmonium and small Symbols. Both

both sides an agreement had been arrived at which was in effect that, when the procession passed in front of the Mosque, there should be only bhajana and clapping of hands to keep time for the bhajana song and no musical instruments whatever should be used. I understood also that in regard to the previous agreement there was a general feeling among the Muslims that it had been made by leaders of the community not belonging to Mangalore and it had been made over the heads of the local representative leaders and in disregard of the general feeling among the Muslims of the locality. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate informed me that this later agreement, which he had brought about, had the definite acceptance of all the local Muslim leaders, that it had the acceptance of the Trustees of the Mosque, that wide publicity had been given to this agreement among all the Moplas in the locality and among the Hindus also and that the agreement had a large measure of general acceptance as satisfactory on both sides. The agreement was signed before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate by the leaders of both the communities.

7. After news of this agreement had spread the sporadic assaults which had been going on ceased.

8. The Temple procession on the 3rd passed without incident, but that procession did not have to pass the route in front of the Mosque at all. On 4.2.41 the question was considered whether it was necessary to have any orders passed under Section 144 Cr.P.C. or to get a licence taken out under the Police Act. The Dt.Superintendent of Police suggested that orders under Section 144 would be desirable. We were all agreed that the arrangement to be made was to give effect to the agreement which had been arrived at between the two parties by having an adequate strength of Reserve Police and ordinary Police on the spot. My view was that,as the action to be taken on the spot would be precisely the same, whether it was by way of enforcing the order under Section 144 or the

11

conditions of a licence under the Police Act, or by the Magistrate present at the spot immediately treating as unlawful assemblies of any sets of persons who might infringe the conditions of the agreement which had been decided to enforce, it would be giving needless irritation and provocation. To embody any Magisterial or Police orders in the terms of a general agreement which had been arrived at by discussion between the parties and which the parties mutually trusted each other to observe, and that the passing of such orders would in fact create an atmosphere less conducive to a peaceful and satisfactory observance of the agreement on both sides. As a question of expediency, therefore, I decided that it was not necessary to pass orders under Section 144 or to get a licence issued under the Police Act. This I decided upon in the course of a meeting with the Dt.Superintendent of Police, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the Deputy Superintendent of Police. It was then decided to have the Reserve Police and the ordinary Police posted in the locality to ensure the peaceful passage of the procession in the manner provided for in the agreement. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the Deputy Superintendent of Police were to be on the spot and to send word to me and the Dt.Superintendent of Police if trouble was anticipated.

8. Later in the day I understood that the Hindus were thinking of diverting their procession through a new route which would avoid the passage in front of the mosque altogether or of abandoning the procession altogether. I asked the Sub-Divisional Magistrate to convey to the Temple authorities that, while the final decision as to this was, of course, a matter for them to decide upon, they should clearly understand that the authorities were perfectly willing and quite prepared to ensure the passage of the procession in front of the mosque in the manner provided for in the agreement.

9. Sometime later, the Dt.Superintendent of Police and

quiet now.

13. The Dt. Superintendent of Police and I have been keeping in the closest touch throughout and at every stage.

14. There were some vague rumours before the agreement on the 3rd between the leaders was arrived at to the effect that Moplas would be pouring into Mangalore from the southern portion of the district and that some of the fishermen in Mangalore were getting excited; but there has been no indication that there is any substance in these rumours.

15. The cases of assaults are being investigated by the Police, but no arrests have so far been made. The reason appears to be that the victims were not able to give the identity or an adequate description of the assailants.

5/7/41

Dt.Magistrate.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Home Department, Madras.
" the Dt.Superintendent of Police, S.Kanara.
" the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Mangalore.

15

C.F. 30.

# POLICE DEPARTMENT.

CHIEF SECRETARY GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS 12 FEB 1941

*Received* ..... 19 *Registered* 12 FEB 1941 19

*Subject:*

Slight trouble between Hindus and Muslims on 2nd February 1941 - Dongerkery, Mangalore - South Kanara district.

4842

121

ENCLOSURES.
No. 4 sheets
Spare copies

R.C. No. 121-C/Stat/41

*Station* Madras, *Dated the* 11th February 19 41.

From (Name) A.J. Happell, Esquire, O.B.E.,
(Designation) Inspr.-Genl. of Police, Madras.

To The CHIEF Secretary to the Government of Madras,
PUBLIC (GENERAL) Department.

Sir,

Ref.- My letter Rc.No.121-C/Stat1/41, dated 4th February 1941.

In continuation of my letter, cited above, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of the District Superintendent's report dated 4th February 1941 which gives a detailed account of the incident.

Mr 16-18 inft

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
our most obedient servant,

for Inspr.-Genl. of Police

Copy to the Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Home Department.

K.R.10.2.

B

16

Copy of report dated 4th February 1941 from the District Superintendent of Police, South Kanara, to the Inspector-General of Police, Madras.

3. I had visited the place at 10.45 p.m. The crowd was dispersed and the procession was proceeding peacefully. I am submitting the following report:-

Just as a small Mosque known as the Shanfer Mosque in the Bhajanmane Street in the portion called Bavangudy in Mangalore Town within about half a mile of the Venkataramana temple which is an important temple for the Hindus and Goud Saraswath Hindus and it has processions from time to time during the year some of these processions pass on the road along this Mosque and there has been incessant trouble for many years between the Hindus and the Muslims about the processions in front of this Mosque. In December last some of the Muhammadans complained that a temple procession passed in front of the mosque accompanied by Bhajans and the beating of gongs. An enquiry was held and the Circle Inspector of Police, Mangalore brought the two parties together and the leaders on both sides agreed not to have music within 150 yards on either side of the mosque and (2) that both sides the hours of congregational worship. Bhajans accompanied by music might be allowed on the night of 2.2.41 as the procession was passing. This was done and in view of the petition given by the Muhammadan band agreement that was reached and additional Bundobust of 3 Head & Constables and 18 constables under the Circle Inspector of Police, Mangalore was stationed in the vicinity of the mosque for preserving order during the passage of the procession. The Muhammadan leaders who had agreed to this settlement were also present at the time. The procession passed peacefully on its way from West to East but on the return journey when it was passing the mosque along with Bhajans some people were throwing stones. And this infuriated the Moplahs who were in the mosque and they made a rush towards the procession. The Circle Inspector of Police intervened with his men and succeeded fully with the help of the Muhammadan leaders kept back the Moplahs inside the mosque. But from the side of the Hindu shops some soda water bottles were thrown and one of the constables (sic) received a cut on the nose. The procession passed the mosque and continued its course without any further disturbance.

3. I had visited the place at 10.45 p.m. The crowd was quite orderly and the procession was peacefully going from West to East and had passed the mosque. I then went towards the checking of the bundobust for His Excellency the Governor. I visited the spot again at 11.45 p.m. and I found the incident described in para above had just occurred. I found a number of Moplas held successfully inside the mosque by a cordon of policemen and I actually saw one soda water bottle being thrown from the direction of the Hindu shops. I had the shops closed and directed them to leave the place which they did and I saw the Moplas and found them in a great frenzy but I pacified them and after some time when the procession had finished its course and reached the safety zone, shepherded the Moplas to their houses. I then went round the Mopla quarters and posted men on with a view to prevent any collection of crowd and remained in the locality until the whole place was cleared. Then I went to the hospital and there found the complainant at Serial No. 28 of the attached A list) and also I learnt to the information of Serial No. 8 in the attached B list

28-22

Patrols were arranged in the morning to keep in touch with the feelings between the Moplas and the Hindus and I regret to say that in spite of the patrols the incidents noted in list A and list B occurred all about 5 p.m. on the 3rd instant. Since 5 p.m. the 3rd there has been no incident whatever.

A-22

5. I met the District Magistrate at about 3.30 a.m. on the 3.4.21 and told him also that I had noticed. The Sub Divisional Magistrate was directed to get into touch with the leaders and he succeeded in getting them to agree to the future course of action by about 5 p.m. the same day, and my information is that a religious head of the Moplas met several of the Moplas and advised them to abide by the settlement. During the afternoon the patrols were reinforced and the temple procession went off without any incident whatever either in the evening or during the night. But of course they were not due to pass this locality on the 3rd instant.

6. List of incidents are attached in tabulated form list A giving the Mopla complainants and list B giving the Hindu complainants.

7. The casesare being vigorously investigated but no arrests have so far been made.

8. A procession is due to pass this area on the 4th inst. in the evening and a report on its passage will be submitted in due course. A strong bundobust has been provided for and the Sub Divisional Magistrate will be present at the spot.

9. There were somewhat vague rumours that Moplas would be pouring into Mangalore from the southern portion of the District and that some of the fishermen were getting excited but there has been no indication that there is any truth in these and the situation is under control.

P.T.O.

Hindu Complaints List B.

| Serial Number. | Name. | Date of occurence. | Hour. | Crime No. or G.D. entry date and hour. | Place of occurence. | Nature of injury & with what weapon. | Cause. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Krishna Prabhu ... | 3-2-41 | 7.30 a.m. | G.D./3-2-41/7.40 a.m. | Golikatta Bazaar | Simple with hand, cudjel & firewood billets. | on account of disturbance in front of Samya mosque. |
| 2. | Rangappa Kudva ... | 3-2-41 | 7-15 a.m. | G.D/3-2-41/8.45 a.m. | Varthak Vilas, Bunder. | Simple with sticks & firewood billets. | -do- |
| 3. | Ananda Prabhu ... | 3-2-41 | 10.20 a.m | G.D./3-2-41- 11 a.m. | Port Office, Bunder. | Simple with hand | -do- |
| 4. | Seetharama Naik ... | 3-2-41 | 11.30 a.m. | F.I.42/41-Sec.323,379 I.P.C.-1.15 p.m. | Golikatte Bazaar. | Simple with hand. | -do- |
| 5. | Padmanabha Pai, Manjeswar | 3-2-41 | 1 p.m. | F.I.45/41-Sec.352,379 I.P.C. | Kudroli. | No injury with hand. | -do- |
| 6. | Ramaraya Pai ... | 3-2-41 | 6 a.m. | G.D.3-2-41/5.45 p.m. | Bibialabi Road. | Simple with cudgel and reepers. | -do- |
| 7. | Surendra Shenoy ... | 3-2-41 | 6 a.m. | G.D/3-2-41-5.45 p.m. | -do- | Simple with wooden billet. | -do- |

8. Ramanath Kamath and Panduranga Poi who attended the hospital got themselves dressed and left immediately. Sub Inspector Bangera who went in search of the above individuals could not trace them. A report has been sent for wound certificate

122

for Inspr.-Genl. of Pol...

23/

Public (General) depot.

Hindu-Muslim tension - Mangalore town

Pp 1-2 CF (Telegram from Collector, South Kanara dt 3.2.41)

Submitted for perusal

A.H.S.
5/2

S.V.R
5/2

Extracts from p2 CF

p4 CF (letter from I.G. of Police No. 121-C State/41-2 dt 4.2.41)

submitted for perusal. A copy of the I.G's letter has been sent to the Home depot. Further report may be awaited

A.H.S
5/2

S.V.R
5.2.

Extracts from p5 CF

(CR No. H 265/41.) Pp 6-14 CF (letter from D.M. of South Kanara No. 11/41-2 dt 5.2.41)

Please see the detailed report from the D.M. of South Kanara at pp 6-14 CF about the slight trouble that took place on the night of 2.2.41 at Mangalore when a Hindu temple procession was bhajana passed in front of a mosque It will be seen from the report that there was no further trouble over the incident and that every precaution was taken to prevent a recurrance.

It does not seem necessary to report this incident to the G of India. It may be mentioned in the next F.R. A copy of the DM's report has been sent to the Home depot ~~It is not necessary~~ The papers may be recorded.

Cal
11/2/41
AKV
11.2.41

Hr 12/2

C.S. SVR 12

24 Dz

(From the I.G. of Police C.O. No. 121-C/41-A41 dt 11-2-41) [illegible]

The letter from the I.G. of Police at ff 15 Cf and the report of the D.S.P. South Kanara at ff 16-18 Cf are submd for perusal. The version in the report is the same as that given by the DH in his report at ff 6-14 Cf.

May be recorded as already ordered.

Cstl
13/2/41

ARV
14.2.41

CS.

14/2

12

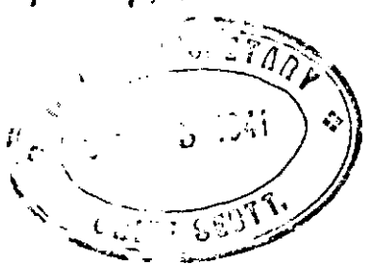
Forts. 326 dt 17.2.41.
Hindu Muslim tension - Dongerkery, Mangalore town, South Kanara district - Papers recorded

Musalman, Madras, 13-2-41.

5836

Pub (Pres) Dept.
Pub (Genl) No
V.S.R
(9.2.41.

703/41-1
19.2.41.



326 Pub
17.2.41.

The Musalman publishes, without comment under the marginal heading a pseudonymous article by 'A servant of Islam'

"Attack on a house of God (i.e. mosque) in Mangalore by the enemies of Islam. Violent encounter of twelve Muslim youths."

The following is a translation of extracts from the article:—In Mangalore Shah Amir Mosque is one of the famous worshipping places of the Muslims in the vicinity of which resides a majority of the Hindu community.—The community is always anxious to violate the sanctity of the mosque.—Once or twice, these mischievous people (i.e. the Hindus - Tr.) wanted to degrade the mosque by playing music etc. but failed and bolted away. * * After this defeat, the fire of Envy and Vengeance of the infidels of Mangalore kindled so much that they busied themselves in different arrangements to humiliate the Muslims forming an obstacle in the fulfilment of their intentions and inviolating the sanctity of this house of God (i.e. mosque Tr.) * * On 2nd February 1941 Konkany Hindus pompously took a procession with Bhajana and musical instruments etc. and passed before the Shah Amir Mosque, quite carelessly When the Muslims got this information, they were affected by the violation of the sanctity of the house of God and ran and gathered there for protecting it. When the Konkanis saw the Muslims, they passed before them quite silently and respectfully, recognising the sanctity of the mosque, with a view to assure the Muslims that they (i.e. the Konkanies - Tr.) will not commit mischief. * * Only ten or twelve young boys who carry on beedi trade etc. remained there. Meanwhile the processionists (litterally procession - Tr.) moved again

towards the mosque and became ready to give vent to the anger in their heart. But who can beat him whom God wants to save? Those 10 or 12 boys raised the cry 'Allah-O-Akbar' (i.e. God is Great - Tr.) and encountered these 12 or 15 hundred enemies of Islam risking their lives and continued to fight for the honour of the said mosque. These young boys sustained serious injuries in this terrible scuffle and two or three were severely wounded. The big army of the Konkanis was scattered and was wounded in sufficient numbers. May good befall these young Muslim boys inasmuch as Holy God preserved the sanctity of His house by means of their bravery and cast the fear of Islam in the hearts of the infidels. Otherwise these blood-thirsty people would have wrought severe oppression. Now this dispute has stopped completely by the adequate police arrangement and peace is established in the town.

Public (General) depn

Submitted for perusal. No action is called for. May be added to Govt No 326 Publ(Gnl) dt 17.2.41

W

20/2/41

20.2.41

21/2